

VZCZCXYZ0012
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHB #0454 0891427
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
R 301427Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8768

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 000454

NOFORN
SIPDIS

S/CT FOR SHARRI R. CLARK

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/19/2019
TAGS: PTER PGOV ASEC EFIN ENRG KCIP BE
SUBJECT: BELGIUM: CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

REF: STATE 15113

Classified By: POLITICAL/ECONOMIC COUNSELOR RICHARD EASON, REASON: 1.4
(B) (D) (E) (G)

¶1. (S/NF) Post concurs with the items on Belgium's 2008 Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources list.

¶2. (S/NF) Port of Antwerp: The Port of Antwerp, despite the global economic downturn, remains a critical transit point for shipping to and from the United States, including at times U.S. military assets. The Port of Antwerp will continue to be a key part of the global supply chain and should remain on the list. Post's economic officer has met with the security authorities of the Port of Antwerp, who are constantly monitoring the port facilities for threats. Post has no reason to believe that the Port of Antwerp would be an active target of terrorists or especially vulnerable to natural circumstances.

¶3. (S/NF) Pharmaceutical Suppliers: Both Baxter and Glaxo Smith Kline continue to manufacture the products listed on last year's report, according to publicly-available information on the companies' websites. Assuming the products in question remain critical, they should remain on the list.

¶4. (S/NF) Germanium Mine: Post has been unable to confirm via publicly available sources the location of specific Belgian companies involved in germanium mining.

BUSH

.